(d) what other steps Government have in mind to ensure the profitability of DTS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A consortium of consultants led by M/s A.F. Ferguson and Company has been appointed to assist in the development and implementation of a viable strategy for corporatisation of the Department of Telecom Services (and of the recently created Depatment of Telecom Operations). The consortium consists of M/s. A.F. Ferguson and Co., M/s N.M. Rothschild & Sons, ABN AMRO Bank N.V. and M/s JDB Dadachanji & Co. The financial viability of the corporate entity will depend on a number of factors, including factors such as corporate tax, staff salary etc. The terms of reference of the consultant *inter-alia* include assessment of the financial viability taking into account factors like need to spread Rural Telephony and other measures that need to be taken to ensure profitability of the corporate entity.

Workload on EDBPMSs

959. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2632 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th April 2000 and state;

(a) whether the exercise of assessment of workload on EDBPMS in Nalanda District has since been completed;

(b) if so, what are the details of EDBPOS in this regard;

(c) whether as a follow up action wage revision has been also effected;

(d) if so, the branch-wise details in the regard;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) by when wage revision would be undertaken?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Revision of statistics of fifty-four (54) of the EDBPOs has been completed.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) List of ED Branch Postmasters whose workload has been assessed is given in the Statement. (*See* below).

(e) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(f) Immediately on completion of collection and examination of statistics.

Statement

Particulars of ED BPM, whose workload has been assessed

(1) Daruara
(2) Maghara
(3) Nai Sarai N.D.
(4) Tungi
(5) Ranabigha
(6) Dumarawan
(7) Hussinpur
(8) Kaila
(9) Mhamadpur
(10) Etehpur
(11) Fulelpur
(12) Karjan
(13) Rahimapur
(14) Ram Nagar Karal Kochhar
(15) Budhra
(16) Chanda
(17) Chobari
(18) Karnauti
(19) Rbiach
(20) Ramnagar Diyara PCO
(21) Shabnima Khural
(22) Setbhaia
(23) Tola Sohan Roy
(24) Badopur PCO
(25) Prasawan
(26) Sahari PCO
(27) Chero
(28) Belchi
(29) Jodhanbigha
(30) Poari PCO
(31) Sawnahua PCO
(32) Bajitpur Murheri
(33) Mari
(34) Meghi Nagwan
(35) Sawait
(36) Machhaaldiha
(37) Gonawan
(38) Sawait

(39) Dosut
(40) Gopalpur
(41) Dalhi
(42) Birjumilki
(43) Narsanda
(44) Badarbali
(45) Jagatpur
(46) Kharthua
(47) Sirai
(48) Knhaiganj
(49) Khojpura
(50) Khushyalpur
(51) Narayanpur
(52) Pitambarpur
(53) Mandachh
(54) Salopur

Decline in FDI inflow

960. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report "FDI inflows in three sectors decline sharply—ASSOCHAM";

(b) if so, the response of Government thereon;

(c) the FDI inflows in the communication sector during the last three years, each year, year-wise, sector-wise and the country of origin-wise;

(d) the break-up of these investments for Mergers and Acquisitions (M and A) and green field projects; and

(e) the assessment of Government regarding the quantum of FDI inflows?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While it is true that actual inflow of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) during 1999 had declined, approvals for such investment has showed an upward trend in 1999 as compared to the previous year.